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PTO/SB/67 (08-04)

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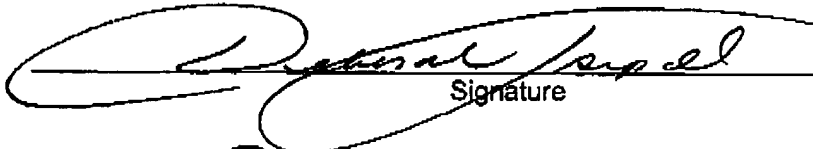
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Application Serial No. 09/970,673
Attorney Docket No. 53394.000525

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1. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal (1 page)
2. Request for Continued Examination (2 pages)
3. Certificate of Transmission (1 page)

Total Pages: 4

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.8. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1.8 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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PTO/SB/30 (04-05)

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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.**Request
for
Continued Examination (RCE)
Transmittal**Address to:
Mail Stop RCE
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P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Application Number	09/970,673
Filing Date	October 5, 2001
First Named Inventor	Kenneth John MOLEE
Art Unit	3761
Examiner Name	Catharine L. Anderson
Attorney Docket Number	53394.000525

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

- Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114** Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).
 - ☒ Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.
 - ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
 - ☒ Other Resp. and Req. for Reconsideration filed with Declaration and Comparison on April 26, 2005
 - ☒ Enclosed
 - ☒ Amendment/Reply
 - ☐ Affidavit(s)/ Declaration(s)
 - ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 - ☐ Other _____
- Miscellaneous**
 - ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)
 - ☐ Other _____
- Fees** The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, any underpayment of fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 30-0206. I have enclosed a duplicate copy of this sheet.
 - ☒ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)
 - ☒ Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)
 - ☐ Other _____
 - ☐ Check in the amount of \$ _____ enclosed
 - ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Signature	<i>Betsy L. Johnson</i>	Date	July 26, 2005
Name (Print/Type)	Betsy L. Johnson	Registration No.	55,305

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Signature		Date	
Name (Print/Type)			

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02 FC:1253 1020.00 DA

JUL 26 2005

PATENT APPLICATION NO. 09/970,673
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 53394.000525**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:)
)
Kenneth John MOLEE) Examiner: Catharine L. Anderson
)
Serial No.: 09/970,673) Group Art No.: 3761
)
Filed: October 5, 2001) Confirmation No.: 1835
)
For: ABSORBENT PRODUCT WITH REDUCED
REWET PROPERTIES UNDER LOAD

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

On January 26, 2005, the Patent and Trademark Office mailed a Final Office Action to Applicant's representative indicating that the pending claims 1-26 were finally rejected. On April 26, 2005, Applicant submitted a Response and Request for Reconsideration (the "Response"), along with a supporting Declaration (the "Declaration"), in response to the claim rejections in the Final Office Action. Applicant's representative has contacted the Examiner, but has been unable to confirm whether the Response and Declaration were considered or entered. In the absence of such confirmation, Applicant's representative is filing the present Request for Continued Examination.

In conjunction with the Request for Continued Examination, Applicant incorporates herein by reference the previously submitted Response and Declaration, filed on April 26, 2005, as the submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. Applicant believes that the previously submitted Response and Declaration address all outstanding issues from the Final Office Action mailed January 26, 2005, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.111.

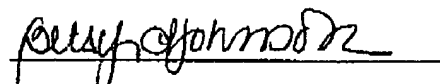
PATENT APPLICATION NO. 09/970,673
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 53394.000525

The Director is hereby authorized to charge \$1,810.00 to the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 50-0206. This amount includes \$790.00 to cover the fee for submission of the RCE under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(e), and \$1,020.00 to cover the fee for a three-month extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(3). The Director is authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0206.

Respectfully submitted,
HUNTON & WILLIAMS LLP

Dated: July 26, 2005

By:



Betsy L. Johnson
Registration No. 55,305

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